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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/449,851 |
| Filing Date | November 24, 1999 |
| First Named Inventor | Holt 18/Reg under |
| Group Art Unit | 1615 1.114 |
| Examiner Name | A. Pulliam |
| Attorney Docket Number | CIMA 3.0-035 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

Best
D-901

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 2, 2001
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
- i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other Extension of one additional month of time

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 12-1095
- i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Name (Print/Type) | LANCE Y. LIU | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 45,379 |
| Signature | <i>lance liu</i> | Date | 07/27/01 |

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | LANCE Y. LIU | Registration No. | 45,379 |
| Signature | <i>lance liu</i> | Date | July 27, 2001 |

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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1615
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PATENT
TECH CENTER 1600/2900 CIMA 3.0-035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of :
Holt *et al.* : Group Art Unit: 1615
Application No. 09/449,851 : Examiner: A. Pulliam
Filed: November 24, 1999 : Date: July 2, 2001
For: TASTE MASKING RAPID :
RELEASE COATING SYSTEM X

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116(a)

Sir:

In complete response to the Final Office Action mailed March 2, 2001, please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Clean copy of the amended claims.

1. (Twice Amended) A taste masked formulation which rapidly releases in the stomach of a patient comprising:

a drug containing core;

a taste masking layer composed of a material which is generally insoluble in saliva at a neutral to basic pH and completely soluble in saliva at a pH of less than about 6.5; and

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Yufeng Liu